

PATENT

#6/A
5-6-02
Don

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:

ISMAEL A. HERNANDEZ, ET AL.

CASE NO.: DP-6670 US NA

APPLICATION NO.: 09/934,904

GROUP ART UNIT: ~~1771~~ 1732

FILED: AUGUST 22, 2001

EXAMINER: UNASSIGNED

FOR: PROCESS FOR MAKING
POLY(TRIMETHYLENE TEREPHTHALATE)
STAPLE FIBERS, AND
POLY(TRIMETHYLENE TEREPHTHALATE)
STAPLE FIBERS, YARNS AND FABRICS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Before examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 12 and 13 to read as follows:

12. (Amended.) The process of claim 1 wherein the process is carried out without annealing the drawn filaments before crimping and the staple fibers have a tenacity of at least 3.5 grams/denier (3.1 cN/dtex).

13. (Amended.) A polytrimethylene terephthalate staple fiber of 0.8-3 denier per filament having a length of about 0.2-6 inches (about 0.5 – about 15 cm), a tenacity of 3.5 grams/denier (3.1 cN/dtex) or more and a crimp take-up of 10-60%, containing 8-30 crimps per inch (about 3 – about 12 crimps/cm), prepared by the process of claim 12.

[Please add the following new claims:]

22. (New.) The process of claim 1 wherein the process is carried out without annealing the drawn filaments before crimping.

23. (New.) The process of claim 22 wherein the temperature of the relaxation is below 100°C.

24. (New.) The process of claim 22 wherein the temperature of the relaxation is 80°C or below.

25. (New.) The process of claim 23 wherein the relaxation is carried out by heating the crimped filaments in an unconstrained condition.